

Private.

Phila., Sunday Eve.
Feb. 27, 1853.

Dear Garrison:

27 Mr. Quincy's letter, communicating to me the action of the Ex. Com. of the Am. A. S. Society on Friday last, came to hand to-day. He seems to take it for granted that I shall say yes to the proposition to take me to New York, but in truth I am puzzled, perplexed, to ^{conclude} ~~know~~ what I ought to say. I would give a new pair of boots for a chance to talk with you one hour. The Committee here are sincerely attached to me, and hate to let me go; and yet they have magnanimously given their consent to the arrangement. Still I shrink from severing my connection with the Freeman, of which I have the independent control, and in which I know my services are highly appreciated,

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and forming a new connection, invol-
ving a partnership which may or may
not prove agreeable. The truth is, I
can stay here permanently if I will;
whereas, I fear that I cannot safely
calculate upon doing so in New
York. If I could be assured that
the project for killing off the ^{Standard} ~~paper~~,
which has been annually brought
forward for several years past,
would not be as frequently re-
newed hereafter, - that, in other words,
the Com. had made up their minds,
once for all, that the paper shall
live - I should feel differently. I
came here with the expectation that
my roving were ended, that I should
not be again called upon to change
my residence. ^{Many of my} ~~My~~ friends have deemed
me fickle on account of my vari-
ous movings, and I fear ~~they~~ that, if,

before I have fairly warmed my
nest here, I pull up stakes again,
it will damage me essentially with
many of them. But I would yield
all personal considerations, if I could
see how my connection with the
Standard is to be of permanent
benefit to the paper. Of course, the
expenses at New York will be seri-
ously augmented: what reason is
there to hope that I can eventually
put the balance on the right side
of the ledger? If I were to go, and,
after working one year, the whole thing
were to collapse on my hands, how
sad and mortified I should feel,
and how deeply should I regret
having dropped the bird in hand
for one in the bush. I have great
confidence in the instincts and the
judgments of the National Com-
mittee, and also in those of the Com-
mittee here; but ~~may~~ I fear that

you are all expecting too much of
me, and that if I comply with your
wishes, you will be disappointed. I
wish you would write me on the sub-
ject and help me to solve my doubts.
One thing I must do before
leaving your Committee, and that
I must go and see Gay, and talk
the subject ^{fully} with him, and see
we can agree in our notions so far
as to secure harmony between us in
conducting the paper. Meanwhile, if you
can spare an hour, immediately
after receiving this, to give me your
views, I shall be greatly obliged
to you, and perhaps see the
clearest for it.

Have you forgotten the vote pas-
sed last year's anniversary at
the Chester, instructing the Ex. Com. in
case they should find it necessary to hold
the meeting this year elsewhere than in
New York, to consider the expediency of
calling it either a week later or a week